

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q90376

Takayuki KATO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/549,904

Group Art Unit: 1794

Confirmation No.: 7150

Examiner: Elizabeth A. Robinson

Filed: September 20, 2005

For: HOLLOW CERAMICS PARTICLES, HOLLOW CERAMICS PARTICLES-
CONTAINING COMPOSITE MATERIAL AND SLIDING MEMBER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of Communications from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application (Japanese Office Actions dated September 3, 2008 and September 10, 2008) citing such documents, together with an English-

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language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communications indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

Applicant submits a Partial English Translation for the Non Patent Document cited in the Japanese Office Action dated September 3, 2008, along with English Abstracts for Japanese Patent application Publication Nos. 61-31315, and 05-138009 (cited in the Japanese Office Action dated September 10, 2008).

Further, it is noted that cited references, 1-3, and 6-7, cited in the Japanese Office Action dated September 10, 2008, were previously listed on the PTO/SB/08 form submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 20, 2005, along with copies of the foreign references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The U.S. PTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
/Sunhee Lee/

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 29, 2008

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

/Sunhee Lee/

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